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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

### WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Two Park Central, Suite 400  
1515 Arapahoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80202-2117

April 1, 2004

Joseph C. Juarez  
Regional Administrator, US Department of Labor  
Employment and Training Administration  
5252 Griffin Street, Room 317  
Dallas, TX 75202

Dear Mr. Juarez:

The Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) is seeking an extension through PY04 of its waiver to the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth Program. The State of Colorado was granted the waiver of WIA section 123 requirement to competitively select providers of the three youth program elements: 1) paid and unpaid work experience, including internships and job shadowing, 2) supportive services, and 3) follow-up services for not less than 12 months after completion of participation.

Realizing the importance of comprehensive youth services, Colorado supports local workforce centers in their commitment to providing a holistic approach to youth development and employment. This practice ensures youth enrolled in work experiences have the continuity of supportive and follow-up services relevant to enabling them to become successful adults.

As an outcome of the waiver, Colorado agreed to exceed its negotiated goals in the areas of older and younger youth retention. For PY02, Colorado exceeded those goals.

Colorado is seeking the extension through PY04 to minimize the disruption of providing these sequential services to youth. In light of WIA reauthorization, for a local WIB to undertake a youth program request for proposal would be one of the more complex procurements this year. This endeavor is in addition to the implementation of the technical changes required by the common performance measures during PY03-04.

Colorado appreciates your consideration of our waiver extension request, and our staff is available to answer any questions you may have. Please contact Karyn Baylon at 303-318-8809 ([karyn.baylon@state.co.us](mailto:karyn.baylon@state.co.us)).

Sincerely,

  
Thomas J. Looff, Director  
Workforce Development Programs